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RECORD PLAYERS

Saturday was a memorable day for India at the Commonwealth Games as Avinash Sable and Priyanka Goswami made history in their respective events. Some talking points...

PRIYANKA WALKS TO FAME

Athletics was not her first love. The athlete from UP wanted to pursue a career in fashion. Instead, here she was scripting history, becoming the 1st Indian woman to win a medal in walk with silver in 10k event

3 GOLD FOR INDIA

Ravi Dahiya (57kg), Vinesh Phogat (53kg) and Naveen (74kg) won a gold each to add to India's tally. Vinesh also became the first woman wrestler from the country to win three consecutive golds in CWG

SABLE'S SILVER LINING IN BIRMINGHAM

- Avinash Sable, a farmer's son from Mandwa village in Maharashtra's Beed district, is with the Indian Army and had served in the Siachen Glacier before turning his attention towards running
- Meanwhile, the women's cricket team reached the final of the T20 event, beating England in the semifinals | P19,20

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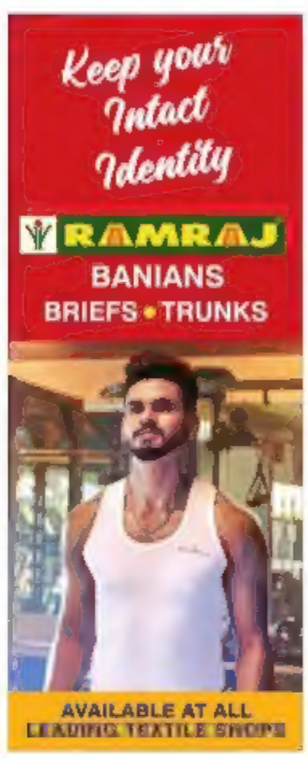
SABLE BROKE HIS OWN NR TO WIN SILVER IN MEN'S 3000M STEEPLECHASE

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI



States told to ramp up Covid testing, vax drive

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AMID a surge in Covid cases, the Centre on Friday wrote to the Delhi government and six other states — Maharashtra, Odisha, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana — asking them to speed up the vaccination drive and ensure adequate testing.

During the past month, Kerala reported 2,347 cases a day on an average while Maharashtra had 2,135, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said in his letter to these states.

Highlighting the situation in Delhi, Bhushan noted 8.2% of all new cases reported in India in the past week were from Delhi where the test positivity rate is up from 5.9% last week to 9.86% on Friday.

"It is critical for the states to ensure adequate testing is undertaken while maintaining the recommended share of RT-PCR and antigen tests. The states must also closely monitor districts reporting higher cases, positivity rates, and clusters," Bhushan said. He warned that upcoming festivals could lead to mass gatherings and potentially facilitate the transmission of Covid-19. He urged the states to ensure Covid norms are followed in crowded places such as markets, inter-state bus stands, schools, etc. He also emphasised the need to follow the five-fold strategy of test, track, treat, vaccinate, and adherence to Covid protocols.

CM BOMMAI TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID

Bengaluru: Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai tested positive for Covid-19 with mild symptoms and had to cancel his scheduled two-day official visit to Delhi on Saturday. He is under home isolation at his R T Nagar residence in Bengaluru. P4

DESPITE CASES, B'LURU URBAN NOT ON LISTS

Bengaluru Urban does not find a place in the Centre's list of 7 districts where Covid-19 testing has declined and in the 24 districts where cases are rising. Bengaluru Urban contributes to 90 to 95% of the state's Covid-19 cases. However, it is not included in the lists as testing is consistently high. P5

JAB-O-METER
TAKE YOUR SHOT
Aug 5 27,42,685 doses
Aug 6 24,78,648 doses
TOTAL: 2,08,10,33,774

NATIONWIDE	AUG 5	AUG 6
Fresh cases	20,551	19,406
Recoveries	21,595	19,928
Deaths	70	49

KARNATAKA	AUG 5	AUG 6
Fresh cases	2,042	1,694
Recoveries	1,704	1,741
Deaths	2	1

Jagdeep Dhankhar is India's next V-P

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

NDA candidate Jagdeep Dhankhar was on Saturday elected India's 14th Vice-President, defeating joint Opposition candidate Margaret Alva by 346 votes. Dhankhar, former West Bengal governor, got an overwhelming 528 votes against Alva's 182. Lok Sabha general secretary Utpal K Singh said 725, or 92.4%, of the total 780 MPs cast their ballots. Fifteen votes were found to be invalid.

The term of outgoing Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu will end on August 10.

The vice-president is elected indirectly by an electoral college comprising Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPs, including nominated members. Voting is via secret ballot and the process involves the proportional representation system using a single transferable vote.

> *By directly or indirectly supporting BJP, some parties and their leaders damaged own credibility* — Margaret Alva

Dhankhar, the first Jat to occupy the second highest constitutional position, was born at Kithana in Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district. He graduated in physics and later law, and practised as a lawyer in the Rajasthan High Court and later in the Supreme Court.

In 1989, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from Jhunjhunu constituency. A year later, he became a minister in the Chandra Shekhar cabinet. After the fall of the Chandra Shekhar government, Dhankhar moved back to his home state Rajasthan. He, then, contested Assembly polls on Congress ticket and became an MLA in 1993. He joined the BJP in 2008.

Dhankhar's tenure as West Bengal governor was marked by frequent run-ins with the Mamata Banerjee government. While Dhankhar's victory was a foregone conclusion, Mamata-led TMC abstained from the poll process claiming it was not consulted on Alva's name. However, two TMC MPs — Sisir Kumar Adhikari and Dibyendu Adhikari — broke the party line and cast their ballots. P11

BBMP receives 50,000 faulty flags in last 3 days

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

EVEN as the Central and state governments are promoting the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign in a big way to mark the 75th anniversary of India's Independence this year, citizens in Bengaluru are returning defective flags to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in large numbers.

According to BBMP officials, 50,000 defective flags have been returned to the civic agency in the last three days.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath said on Saturday that if citizens find any defect in the flags, they need not go to the BBMP counters they purchased them from, but should visit any of the BBMP ward offices to return them and get proper ones in exchange. CONTINUED ON: P7

EXPRESS READ

CM revamps state planning commission

Bengaluru: The state government decided to revamp the Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission on the lines of NITI Aayog at the Centre. According to a government order, the state planning body will now be called State Institute for Transformation of Karnataka (SITK). P4

BBMP: Idgah Maidan belongs to revenue dept

Bengaluru: The BBMP on Saturday passed an order stating that the contentious Chamrajpet Idgah Maidan belongs to the revenue department. Wakf Board Chairman Shafi Saadi said, "We have strong records and our legal team will now take up the fight against the revenue dept." P5

WITH THIS ISSUE
A CUT ABOVE THE REST
PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

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- Design
- Sociology
- New Media

Disclaimer: The building shown above is the Architect's impression of the new campus (Phase 1) of RV University under construction